

Message Text

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SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DPW-01 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 251020Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9007

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

CINCPAC/POLAD/HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT SEPT 18-24,1974.

PART I--SUMMARY.

1. THE OVERALL INCIDENT TOTAL IN VIET NAM WAS DOWN SOMEWHAT THIS WEEK DUE TO A NEARLY 30 PERCENT DROP IN THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IN MR-4. THE OTHER THREE REGIONS ALL EXPERIENCED A RISE IN BOTH THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES. IN MR-1 THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS CLIMBED TO A YEARLY HIGH OF 394. ACTION NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS INCLUDED ABF'S IN QUANG TRI AND MAJOR COMMUNIST ATTACKS IN THUA THIEN, WHERE MEMBERS OF THE 8TH MARINE BATTALION FOUGHT OFF A THREE-DAY SERIES OF ABF'S AND ASSUALTS. A LATE REPORT INDICATES THE LANG CO BRIDGE NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS HAS BEEN BLOWN, AND TRAFFIC IS STOPPED ALONG QL1. IN QUANG NAM, AIRBORNE TROOPS RETOOK SEVERAL POSITIONS LOST TO THE COMMUNISTS NEAR THUONG DUC LAST AUGUST. AN ATTACK ON GAI BUC RANGER BASE IN QUANG NGAI NEAR THE KONTUM BORDER BEGAN SEPT 19 AND THE BASE APPARENTLY WAS OVERRUN TWO DAYS LATER. IN MR-2 THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN THE LEVEL AND TEMPO OF FIGHTING THIS WEEK. IN BINH DINH, GVN FORCES DROVE COMMUNIST DEFENDERS OFF DOI HA HILL IN PHU CAT DISTRICT AND OCCUPIED SEVERAL NEARBY VILLAGES. DESPITE SOME SMALL UNIT ACTIVITY AND SIX ATTEMPTS TO INTERDICT QL19 PLEIKU WAS GENERALLY QUIET, AS WAS KONTUM. MILITARY ACTIVITY WAS UNUSUALLY HIGH IN BINH THUAN THIS WEEK AS THE COMMUNISTS DIRECTED AN ATTACK ON RF AND PF UNITS NEAR THE SONG LUY RESETTLEMENT SITE. THE INCIDENT TOTAL IN MR-3 ROSE THIS WEEK, THOUGH, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO RETAKE OP82 NEAR BEN CAT, ACTIVITY WAS GENERALLY SMALL SCALE. ABF'S CONTRIBUTED TO A SHARP RISE IN THE INCIDENT TOTAL IN TAY NINH. ACTION IN LONG KHANH WAS MARKED BY SEVERAL SAPPER ATTACKS AND REPEATED INCIDENTS ALONG QL20, INCLUDING THE ABDUCTION OF TWO PEOPLE TRAVELING ALONG THE ROAD AND A CULVERT MINING. SEVERAL TERRORIST INCIDENTS OCCURRED NEAR SAIGON, INCLUDING THE GUNNING DOWN OF TWO NATINONAL POLICEMENT AND THE GRENADING OF A VIS OFFICE. ROUTE 1 FROM SAIGON TO TAY NINH WAS INTERDICTED FOR ONE DAY WHEN A BRIDGE 15 KMS FROM SAIGON WAS BLOWN. MR-4 EXPERIENCED A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN THE INCIDENT RATE, THOUGH CASUALTIES REMAINED HIGH. IN DINH TUONG, A MAJOR CONTACT IN

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SAM GIANG DISTRICT LEFT 8 RF AND 54 VC DEAD. ELSEWHERE IN THE RPOVINCE, ACTIVITY CONSISTED MOSTLY OF MININGS, ABFS, AND GROUND ATTACKS ON ISOLATED GVN POSITIONS. IN KIEN TUONG, NVA/VC FORCES CONTINUE TO RESIST GVN EFFORTS TO REGAIN CONTROL OF THE CUNG CANAL. NO LARGE-SCALE ACTION WAS REPORTED IN THE CENTRAL DELTA. IN KIEN HOA PRESSURE ON ROUTE 30 INCLUDED SNIPING INCIDENTS AND A BRIDGE MINING. OTHER PROVINCES EXPERIENCED ACTIVITY AGAINST GVN OUTPOSTS, AND A NUMBER WERE LOST OR ABANDONED. IN THE SOUTHERN

PART OF THE DELTA, ACTIVITY IN BAC LIEU DROPPED OFF SHARPLY. ATTEMPTS BY GVN FORCES TO DISLODGE THE 95A NVA REGIMENT FROM POSITIONS IN CHUONG THIEN HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. THE ICCS FINANCIAL CRISIS WAS RELIEVED BY A CONTRIBUTION OF \$2.8 MILLION FROM THE GVN AND \$4 MILLION FROM THE USG. THE DRV/"PRG" BOYCOTT OF THE TPJMC AND FPJMT PLENARIES CONTINUES. THE GVN TURNED OVER WHAT ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE REMAINS OF A US SERVICEMAN TO US OFFICIALS IN AN INFORMAL CEREMONY IN QUANG TIN SEPT 19. THE DRV FOREIGN MINISTRY BLASTED PRESIDENT FORD'S RECENT STATEMENT THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAD FAILED TO IMPLEMENT ADEQUATELY ARTICLE 8B AS A "BLANT LIE". NOTING THEIR "UNILATERAL" RETURN OF DIC PRISONERS' REMAINS, THEY CHARGED THE US WITH HOLDING UP IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 8B BY REFUSING TO DISCUSS PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION. END SUMMARY.

PART II--ICCS.

2. THE ICCS FINANCIAL CRISIS WAS RELIEVED BY A CONTRIBUTION OF \$2.8 MILLION FROM THE GVN AND \$4 MILLION FROM THE USG. ACCORDINGLY, PA&E WITHDREW ITS NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES. AIR AMERICA HAS ALSO THREATENED TO CANCEL ITS SERVICES IF NOT PAID BY SEPT 30.

PART III--FPJMT, TPJMC AND RELATED MATTERS.

3. THE DRV/"PRG" BOYCOTT OF THE TPJMC AND FPJMT PLENARY SESSIONS CONTINUED INTO ITS FOURTEENTH WEEK AS THE TWO COMMUNIST PARTIES AGAIN ABSENTED THEMSELVES.

4. IN AN INFORMAL AND DIGNIFIED CEREMONY HELD SEPT 19 IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE, THE GVN TURNED OVER TO US OFFICIALS THE REMAINS OF AN INDIVIDUAL BELIEVED TO BE A US SERVICEMAN. THE REMAINS HAD BEEN RECOVERED UNSOLICITED AND TURNED OVER TO GVN OFFICIALS. CONFIDENTIAL

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MEMBERS OF THE POLICH AND IRANIAN DELEGATIONS TO THE ICCS STATIONED AT TAM KY ATTENDED THE CEREMONY.

PART IV--COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT.

5. COMMUNISTS BLAST FORD STATEMENT ON MIA'S THE DRV FOREIGN MINISTRY, IN A SEPT 20 STATEMENT, SAID THAT PRESIDENT FORD'S CHARGE THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAD FAILED TO IMPLEMENT ADEQUATELY ARTICLE 8B OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT WAS A "BLATANT LIE". THE STATEMENT NOTED THAT THE DRV HAD "UNILATERALLY" ALLOWED THE US TO REPATRIATE THE REMAINS OF PRISONERS WHO DIED IN CAPTIVITY IN THE NORTH, EVEN IN THE ABSENCE OF AGREED PROCEDURES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 8B. IT CHARGED THAT THE US AND GVN HAD REFUSED TO DISCUSS THESE PROCEDURES WITH THE COMMUNIST SIDE AND THAT THIS "REFUSAL" WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN

IMPLEMENTING THE ARTICLE. THE STATEMENT WENT ON TO REPEAT FAMILIAR CANARDS ALLEGING US COLLUSION WITH THE GVN TO VIOLATE THE CEASEFIRE, AND TO CONTINUE THE DETENTION OF "HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS" OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL. HANOI'S ARMY NEWSPAPER, ALSO ON SEPT 20, LABELED THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT A "CHEAP PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE MOVE" DESIGNED, AMONG OTHER THINGS TO DAMPEN PUBLIC CRITICISM OF HIS PARDON OF FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON AND TO INFLUENCE CONGRESSIONAL DELIBERATIONS ON AID TO THE GVN.

6. DRV FOREIGN MINISTRY ON "REPRESSION" IN THE SOUTH. HANOI'S FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN CHARGED THAT THE GVN HAD VIOLATED THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLES TWO, SIX AND ELEVEN OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT BY ITS "BARBAROUS REPRESSION" OF THE RECENT DEMONSTRATION IN HUE. THE STATEMENT "POINTS OUT" THAT THE REAL CULPRIT IS THE US "WHICH HAS SUPPLIED BOMBS, MUNITIONS AND WEAPONS AND REPRESSIVE MEANS TO THE NGUYEN VAN THIEU ADMINISTRATION AND HAS USED IT AS A TOOL TO PROLONG THE WAR AND MERCILESSLY REPRESS THE PEOPLE'S ASPIRATIONS FOR PEACE, INDEPENDENCE, DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL CONCORD."

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CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
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PART V--MR-1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

ACCORDING TO I CORPS HEADQUARTERS, THERE WERE 394 COMMUNIST CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS DURING THE WEEK, THE HIGHEST NUMERICAL TOTAL THIS YEAR. THIS REFLECTS AN EXCHANGE OF ABF'S IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE, A SERIES OF COMMUNIST ATTACKS IN NORTHWESTERN THUA THIEN PROVINCE, AN INCREASE OF ACTIVITY IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE, AND CONTINUATION OF FIGHTING IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE (MARKED BY THE FALL OF GIA VUC RANGER BASE ON THE QUANG NGAI-KONTUM BORDER). GVN CASUALTIES: 149 KIA; 174 MISSING; 577 WOUNDED. COMMUNIST CASUALTIES: 541 KIA; 12 DETAINEES; 1 RETURNEE. VNAF FLEW 182 COMBAT AIR SORTIES DURING THE WEEK.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE, ON SEPTEMBER 18 COMMUNIST FORCES FIRED 180 ROUNDS OF B-40, MORTARS, AND RECOILLESS RIFLES AT MARINE POSITIONS ON THE FRONT LINE WEST OF QUANG TRI CITY. MARINES RETURNED THE FIRE. CASUALTIES WERE ARVN: 2 KIA AND 4 WIA; COMMUNISTS: 6 KIA AND 7 WIA.

3. IN NORTHWEST THUA THIEN PROVINCE, AN ESTIMATED COMMUNIST BATTALION ATTACKED POSITIONS OF THE 8TH MARINE BATTALION ON THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 18. FIGHTING CONTINUED FOR THREE DAYS, DURING WHICH SEVERAL SMALL DEFENSIVE POSITIONS WERE LOST AND RETAKEN. I CORPS FORWARD HEADQUARTERS REPORTED COMMUNIST FORCES EXPENDED

MORE THAN 7,000 ROUNDS OF ARTILLERY AND MORTAR AGAINST THESE POSITIONS. MARINE CASUALTIES WERE MODERATE: 15 KIA; 63 WIA, 23 MIA. COMMUNIST LOSSES WERE ESTIMATED AT 297 KIA. FURTHER SOUTH.

POSITIONS OF THE 61ST RANGER BATTALION CAME UNDER COMMUNIST ATTACK OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF TIME. SEVERAL DEFENSIVE POSITIONS WERE OVERRUN AND ONE COMPANY OF THIS BATTALION REPORTED 38 MISSING. SOUTH OF HUE THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING IN PHU LOC DISTRICT SUBSIDED, WITH NO SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS REPORTED. TWO INCIDENTS OF "ABDUCTION" WERE REPORTED; THE FIRST INVOLVED A FAMILY WITH RELATIVES WITH THE VC AND THE SECOND A FAMILY WITH LAND IN THE COMMUNIST-CONTROLLED PORTION OF QUANG CONFIDENTIAL

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TRI PROVINCE.

4. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

A NAVAL RADAR STATION ON MONKEY MOUNTAIN NEAR DANANG WAS VERY LIGHTLY DAMAGED BY EXPLOSIONS ON THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 18-19. ON THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 20-21, AN EXPLOSION OF UNKNOWN CAUSE SANK THE VIETNAMESE FREIGHTER TRUONG GIANG, LOADED WITH SCRAP METAL FOR EXPORT, IN THE PORT OF DANANG.

5. IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE, AIRBORNE TROOPS OPERATING EAST OF THUONG DUC DISTRICT RETOOK SEVERAL HILLTOP POSITIONS LOST TO THE COMMUNISTS IN AUGUST AND HAD A SERIES OF SMALL CLASHES AND ABF'S. IN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT BATTLE, AIRBORNE TROOPS CAPTURED HILL 1062 KILLING 69 COMMUNISTS WHILE SUFFERING 3 KIA AND 16 WIA. GROUND ACTION ELSEWHERE IN THE PROVINCE WAS LIGHT. A COMMUNIST ATTACK DAMAGED THE XUYEN THO VILLAGE OFFICE (DUY XUYEN DISTRICT) ON SEPTEMBER 21. COMMUNIST FORCES SHELLED AND ROCKETED POPULATED AREAS OF DU Y XUYEN, DUC DUC AND DAO LOC DISTRICTS, THE 57TH ARVN REGIMENT HEADQUARTERS AT DA TINH MOUNTAIN, SEVERAL TERRITORIAL FORCES' POSITIONS, AND THE HOA CAM TRAINING CENTER.

6. QUANG TIN PROVINCE REMAINED RELATIVELY QUIET. FURTHER ENEMY INFILTRATION WAS REPORTED AROUND HAU DUC DISTRICT (BT0502) AND AN ADDITIONAL RF BATTALION WAS TRANSFERRED TO REINFORCE THAT AREA.

7. ON SEPTEMBER 19, IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE, COMMUNIST FORCES LAUNCHED THEIR LONG-ANTICIPATED ATTACK ON THE GAI VUC RANGER BASE ON THE QUANG NGAI-KONTUM BORDER. ON SEPTEMBER 21 CONTACT WAS LOST WITH THE BASE, WHICH HAD BEEN MANNED BY THE 70TH RANGER BATTALION. SMALL RANGER ELEMENTS WERE REPORTED TO BE TRYING TO EXFILTRATE TO ARVN LINES.

8. ELSEWHERE IN QUANG NGAI, FIGHTING CONTINUED INCONCLUSIVELY IN SOUTHERN NGHIA HANH DISTRICT AND EASTERN BINH SON DISTRICT. COMMUNIST HARASSMENT INCREASED NEAR THE LAM SON BASE IN

SON TINH DISTRICT AND ALONG Q.L. 1 IN SOUTHERN DUC PHO. THE
MONTHLY RESUPPLY CONVOY TO TRA BONG DISTRICT WAS DELAYED ONE DAY
WHEN THE FIRST ATTEMPT WAS STOPPED BY COMMUNIST MINES; SUPPLY OF
THAT MOUNTAIN DISTRICT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ACCOMPLISHED, HOWEVER.
IN SON HA DISTRICT, ELEMENTS OF THE 68TH RANGERS RECEIVED ONE
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LARGE MORTAR ABF. ABF'S AGAINST CIVILIAN AND MILITARY TARGETS
CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE.

9. ICCS: NO OBSERVATIONS OR INVESTIGATIONS WERE REPORTED IN
EITHER ICCS REGIONS 1 OR 2. MEMBERS OF THE POLISH AND IRANIAN
DELEGATIONS AT TAM KY, HOWEVER, ATTENDED A JCRC CEREMONY IN
WHICH REMAINS BELIEVED TO BE THOSE OF A U.S. SERVICEMAN WERE
TURNED OVER TO AMERICAN CUSTODY BY THE GVN.

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PART VI--MR-2

1. SUMMARY: THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN THE LEVEL AND INTENSITY OF FIGHTING DURING THE PAST WEEK WITH SIGNIFICANT ACTION OCCURRING IN QUANG DUC, BINH DINH, AND BINH THUAN PROVINCES. GOVERNMENT FORCES SUCCESSFULLY DROVE VC/NVA DEFENDERS OFF KEY TERRAIN IN BINH DINH, INFLECTING HEAVY CASUALTIES. THE COMMUNIST "SONG MAO" REGIMENT ATTACKED AN RF BATTALION IN BINH THUAN. MR II HQS REPORTS THAT THE 48TH REGT, 320TH NVA DIV HAS MOVED FORWARD FROM ITS DUC CO BASE CAMP TO THANH AN DISTRICT IN PLEIKU WHERE THEY ARE CONDUCTING RECONNAISSANCE OPERATIONS IN ANTICIPATION OF AN ATTACK AGAINST THE DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS. VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT HAVE OBSERVED ROADBUILDING IN ROUTE 715, SW OF KONTUM CITY. GVN INTELLIGENCE SOURCES APPEAR TO CONFIRM THAT THE 95B REGT IS PROVIDING SECURITY FOR THIS CONSTRUCTION EFFORT. SMALL UNIT PROBES OF CHUONG NGHIA SUBSECTOR IN KONTUM BY ELEMENTS OF THE 10TH NVA DIV ARE BELIEVED TO BE A PRELUDE TO THE MAJOR ATTACK PREDICTED IN RECENTLY CAPTURED DOCUMENTS. INCIDENT TOTALS FOR THE WEEK INCREASED 30 PERCENT TO 110. BINH DINH REPORTED THE MOST ACTIVITY, 75 INCIDENTS. COMMUNIST CASUALTIES INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE PREVIOUS WEEK FROM 163 KIA TO 316 KIA WHILE RVNAF SUFFERED AN INCREASE TO 131 KIA, UP FROM 89 KIA. AVAILABLE AIR ASSETS LEVELED OFF DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. TAC AIR MISSIONS WENT DOWN FROM 108 TO 94; VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS INCREASED FROM 101 TO 154; HELICOPTER SORTIES INCREASED SLIGHTLY FROM 681 TO 726.

2. BINH DINH: GOVERNMENT FORCES SUCCEEDED IN DRIVING VC/NVA

DEFENDERS OFF BITTERLY CONTESTED DOI DA HILL IN PHU CAT DISTRICT, AND SIMULTANEOUSLY INFLICTED HEAVY CASUALTIES ON COMMUNIST FORCES IN A SERIES OF BATTLES IN HOAI NHON. ON SEPTEMBER 18, THE 1ST AND 2ND BN 41ST ARVN REGT AND THE 414TH ARMORED CAVALRY SQUADRON OCCUPIED DOI DA HILL WHILE THE 43RD AND 44TH RANGER BATTALIONS TOOK NUI SE MOUNTAIN. DUE TO THEIR EFFECTIVE PURSUIT OF THE RETREATING FORCES, ARVN WAS ABLE TO QUICKLY OCCUPY A STRATEGIC SERIES OF NEARBY VILLAGES WHICH HAD FORMERLY BEEN CONTROLLED BY THE COMMUNISTS. GOVERNMENT FORCES ARE NOW IN COMMAND OF THE SCENE OF THE BATTLE WHICH HAS BEEN FOUGHT IN SOUTHEASTERN PHU MY AND NORTHEASTERN PHU CAT OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS.

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3. PLEIKU: THE PROVINCE REMAINED GENERALLY QUIET THE PAST WEEK ALTHOUGH THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN SMALL UNIT ACTIVITY IN THE VICINITY OF BOTH PLEI DOLIM (10 KM SW OF 23RD DIV HQS AT CAMP ENARI) AND THANH AN DISTRICT HQS. ON SEPTEMBER 22, THE 23RD DIVISIONS HQS RECEIVED EIGHT 122MM ROCKETS WITH NO REPORTED CASUALTIES. THERE WERE SIX ATTEMPTS MADE TO INTERDICT QL-19; HOWEVER, TRAFFIC WAS NOT INTERRUPTED FOR LONG. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM A PRISONER CAPTURED RECENTLY INDICATES THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN A LOCAL HIGH POINT WHICH THEY HAD PLANNED FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 19 TO SEPTEMBER 20. THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF THIS CAMPAIGN WERE TO DISRUPT GVN LOGISTICS AND AIRFIELD CAPABILITIES. ON SEPTEMBER 18, COMMUNIST FORCES FIRED 50 ROUNDS OF 82MM MORTAR FOLLOWED BY A SAPPER ATTACK AGAINST THE REAR BASE OF THE 19TH ARMORED CAVALRY SQUADRON CO-LOCATED WITH THE 32ND DIRECT SUPPORT GROUP. THE DEFENDERS LOST 22 KIA AND SUSTAINED DAMAGE TO AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

4. KONTUM: ACTIVITY REMAINED AT THE LOWEST LEVEL THIS YEAR WITH ONLY A FEW SMALL UNIT CLASHES REPORTED IN THE VICINITY OF CHUONG NGHIA. THE 1ST BN, 28TH REGT OF THE 10TH NVA DIV HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED THROUGH CAPTURED DOCUMENTS AS OPERATING NEAR THIS SUBSECTOR OUTPOST. ACCORDING TO VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE, NUMEROUS TRACES OF BULLDOZER ACTIVITY ARE EVIDENT ON ROUTE 715, 20 KMS SW OF KONTUM CITY. ELEMENTS OF THE 95B NVA REGT ARE REPORTED BEING USED TO SECURE THIS COMMUNICATION ROUTE.

5. PHU YEN: THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS DURING THE PAST WEEK. THE PROVINCE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY HAS RECENTLY DECLINED, A SITUATION HE ATTRIBUTES TO AN INCREASE IN VC/NVA EFFORTS TO COOPT THE RICE HARVEST AND REGAIN TERRITORY LOST TO THE GVN, PLUS THE INEFFECTIVENESS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S MILITARY STRATEGY. THE NEW PROVINCE CHIEF, LT. COL. GIA, STATES THAT HE HAS INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PRESIDENT TO PROTECT THE RICE AND CONSOLIDATE THE SECURITY

OF GVN CONTROLLED TERRAIN. HE INTENDS TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF MOBILE TERRITORIAL FORCES AND SHORE UP LOCAL SECURITY UNITS TO ACCOMPLISH THIS MISSION. ACCORDING TO RALLIERS, THE 3RD PHASE OF THE VC/NVA SUMMER OFFENSIVE BEGAN SEPTEMBER 15 AND WILL LAST ONE MONTH. OBJECTIVES ARE TO ATTACK GVN OUTPOSTS IN DONG XUAN
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AND DOI HOA DISTRICTS AND TO INCREASE THE PRESSURE ON THE STRETCH OF QL-1 PASSING THROUGH TUY HOA AND HIEU XUONG DISTRICTS.

6. BINH THUAN: ACTIVITY CONTINUED AT AN UNUSUALLY HIGH LEVEL FOR THIS PROVINCE FOLLOWING A TREND ESTABLISHED EARLY IN SEPTEMBER. IN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT, THE 212TH RF BN AND THE PF PLT WERE ATTACKED ON SEPTEMBER 20 NEAR THE SONG LUY RESETTLEMENT SITE BY HEAVILY ARMED ELEMENTS OF THE NEWLY FORMED 812 OR "SONG MAO" REGIMENT. AN NVA PRISONER REPORTED THAT THE FORCE HAS OVER 3,000 ROUNDS OF MORTAR AND RECOILESS RIFLE AMMO WITH THEM FOR THE OPERATION. ARVN LOST 6 KIA, 27 WIA, 4 MIA, AND 8 WEAPONS IN THIS ACTION WHILE THE COMMUNIST SUSTAINED 23 KIA WITH TWO MORTARS CAPTURED. AT 1400 HOURS THE SAME DAY, A VC MAIN FORCE CONSISTING OF THE 840TH LOCAL FORCE BN AND THE 130TH ARTY BN (BOTH OF THE 812 REGT), PLUS TWO INDEPENDENT COMPANIES, OCCUPIED NGHIA THUAN HAMLET NEAR THE SCENE OF THE EARLIER CONTACTS, CAUSING THE POPULATION TO EVACUATE THE AREA. GVN FORCES REOCCUPIED THE HAMLET, ALREADY VACATED BY THE ATTACKERS, ON SEPT 21, AND FOUND CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE. BOTH PHU LONG AND PHU SUNG VILLAGES, EACH WITH POPULATIONS IN EXCESS OF 3,000, WERE SUBJECTED TO SAPPER ATTACKS THE PAST WEEK, CAUSING CASUALTIES TO THE DEFENDERS AND DAMAGE TO ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES. THE PROVINCE CHIEF BELIEVES THE COMMUNISTS ARE ATTEMPTING TO DIVERT GOVERNMENT FORCES AWAY FROM PROTECTION OF THE RICE HARVEST.

7. QUANG DUC: ON SEPTEMBER 18, ELEMENTS OF THE 271ST NVA REGT SIMULTANEOUSLY ATTACKED THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE 259TH PF BN SECURING DAO TRU V FIREBASE (YU 868532), AND THE 2ND CO OF THE SAME UNIT AT A LOCATION 3 KMS AWAY. BOTH POSITIONS RECEIVED HEAVY 107MM ROCKET AND MORTAR FIRE FOLLOWED BY A GROUND ATTACK. THE 2ND CO WAS OVERRUN AND ITS DEFENDERS KILLED, CAPTURED, OR DISPERSED. A REACTION FORCE COMPOSED OF ELEMENTS OF THE 53RD REGT, THE 14TH CAV SQDRN AND THE 24TH RANGER GROUP MANAGED TO REACH DAO TRUNG AND SUBSEQUENTLY REOCCUPY THE COMPOUND; THEY DISCOVERED 18 RF KIA, 8 NVA KIA AND A NUMBER OF WEAPONS AND DOCUMENTS. HOWEVER, MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE AREA PERSISTS AND HIGHWAY 8-B, LINKING GIA NGHIA WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD, CONTINUES TO BE INTERMITTENTLY CLOSED. OUR PROVINCE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS THAT COLONEL NGHIA, PROVINCE CHIEF, IS DEMONSTRATING FORCEFUL LEADERSHIP DESPITE THE ABSENCE OF AN EFFECTIVE SECTOR RESERVE FORCE AND POOR INTELLIGENCE.
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8. OTHER ACTIVITY: COMMUNIST FORCES IN LAM DONG HAVE BEEN INCREASINGLY SUCCESSFUL RECENTLY IN CUTTING OFF GVN FARMERS FROM THEIR FIELDS. SOME FIELDS HAVE HAD TO BE ABANDONED WHICH HAS INCREASED PRESSURE ON THE ECONOMY. AN ATTACK AGAINST CAM RANH PENINSULA OCCURRED SEPTEMBER 18 WHEN COMMUNIST SAPPERS INFILTRATED A DEPOT OF THE 2ND COASTAL NAVY COMMAND AND DESTROYED 100,000 LITERS OF DIESEL FUEL.

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DPW-01 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 251020Z SEP 74 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9010
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL CAN THO
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
CINCPAC/POLAD/HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING

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PART VII--MR-3

1. DESPITE THE ABSENCE OF LARGE-UNIT, MAIN FORCE ENGAGEMENTS EXCEPT IN THE BEN CAT AREA, MILITARY ACTIVITY WAS AT A FAIRLY HIGH LEVEL WITH AN INCREASE TO 190 INCIDENTS THIS WEEK COMPARED WITH 167 LAST WEEK. THREE TERRORIST INCIDENTS IN GIA DINH PROVINCE DURING THE WEEK, TWO OF WHICH WERE WITHIN THE SAIGON METROPOLITAN AREA, UNDERLINE OTHER INDICATIONS THAT THE NVA/VC ARE STEPPING UP SAPPER ACTIVITY BOTH IN THE SAIGON AND OTHER AREAS OF MR-3. ROUTE 1 FROM SAIGON TO TAY NINH WAS INTERDICTED FOR ONE DAY BECAUSE OF A BLOWN BRIDGE ABOUT 15 KMS FROM SAIGON AND IN LONG KHANH PROVINCE ROUTE 20 TO DALAT WAS SUBJECTED TO REPEATED ATTACKS DURING THIS PERIOD CAUSING PERIODIC CLOSURES BY GVN AUTHORITIES FOR PUBLIC SAFETY. ELEMENTS OF THE 5TH ARVN DIV CONTINUED EFFORTS TO RETAKE OUTPOST 82 WEST OF BEN CAT BUT WITH LITTLE NOTABLE SUCCESS. MR-3 HQ CURRENTLY FORESEES A NEW NVA/VC HIGH POINT TO GET UNDERWAY DURING THE FIRST HALF OF OCTOBER, WITH PHU GIAO IN NE BINH DUONG PROVINCE AS ONE OF SEVERAL LIKELY TARGETS, AND A CONTINUED INCREASE IN SAPPER ACTIVITY.

2. REGIONAL HQS REPORTED 35 GROUND CONTACTS (27 LAST WEEK), 104 ATTACKS BY FIRE (LAST WEEK 99), AND 4 COMBINED GROUND AND ABFS. THERE WERE 11 MININGS AND 36 MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTS INCLUDING TWO ASSASSINATIONS, THREE SAPPER ATTACKS, AND 23 SMALL ARMS HARASSMENTS. BINH DUONG CONTINUED TO BE THE FOCUS OF ACTIVITY WITH 74 INCIDENTS (64 LAST WEEK). TAY NINH FOLLOWED AT 24, INCREASING SHARPLY FROM 12 LAST WEEK, WHILE HAU NGHIA REPORTED 21 AND BINH LONG 19.

3. NVA/VC REPORTEDLY FIRED 1,460 ARTILLERY AND MORTAR ROUNDS. RVNAF FIRINGS INCREASED SLIGHTLY TO 9,192 ROUNDS COMPARED WITH LAST WEEK'S 6,251. THERE WAS A TOTAL OF 124 FIXED-WING COMBAT SORTIES FLOWN, MOSTLY WITH A-37'S. VNAF USED F-5 AIRCRAFT ON A LIMITED SCALE (EIGHT SORTIES) FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS MONTH. HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS FLEW 117 SUPPORT MISSIONS.

4. GVN CASUALTIES FOR THIS PERIOD WERE 51 KIA, 194 WIA, AND 19 MIA WHILE NVA/VC LOSSES WERE REPORTED AS 102 KIA, 3 CIA, AND 6 RALLIERS. ADDITIONALLY, VNAF CLAIMS 148 NVA/VC KILLED BY AIR.

5. THE AREA OF MOST INTENSE FIGHTING IN MR-3 CONTINUED TO BE CONFIDENTIAL

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BINH DUONG. HILL 25 SW OF BEN CAT WAS THE SCENE OF FOUR DAYS (SEPT 19 - 22) OF MAJOR ABF'S AND GROUND ATTACKS WHICH RESULTED IN RVNAF CASUALTIES OF 11 KIA AND 42 WIA AND NVA/VC LOSSES OF 51 KIA.

6. TAY NINH EXPERIENCED A TWOFOLD INCREASE IN ACTIVITY CONSISTING MAINLY OF ABF'S. THE MAJOR INCIDENT OCCURRED SEPTEMBER 19 IN HIEU THIEN DISTRICT WHEN AN RF COMPANY WAS HIT WITH 80 ROUNDS OF 82MM AND 61MM MORTAR SUFFERING THREE WOUNDED. IN KHIEM HANH DISTRICT ARVN FORCES FROM SEPTEMBER 20-21 ENGAGED A COMMUNIST UNIT KILLING 7 NVA/VC AND SUFFERING A LOSS OF 1 KILLED AND 3 WOUNDED.

7. ACTIVITY WAS STEPPED UP IN THE NORTHEASTERN AREA OF DINH QUAN DISTRICT OF LONG KHANH PROVINCE. DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF SEPT 17 A COMMUNIST SAPPER UNIT ATTACKED AN RF COMPANY IN THAT AREA RESULTING IN 6 RF KILLED AND 22 WOUNDED. ON SEPTEMBER 20 COMMUNIST SAPPERS EQUIPPED WITH B-40 ROCKETS AND EXPLOSIVES STRUCK A PF OUTPOST IN THE VICINITY OF QL 1 IN XUAN LOC DISTRICT KILLING 2 PF AND WOUNDING 7. ON SEPTEMBER 21 COMMUNIST SAPPERS BLEW A CULVERT ON QL 20 IN DINH QUAN DISTRICT AND FIRED APPROXIMATELY 30 ROUNDS OF 82MM MORTAR AT THE RF COMPANY SENT TO SECURE THE AREA PRIOR TO MAKING REPAIRS. THE FOLLOWING DAY A COMMUNIST FORCE AMBUSHED A JEEP TRAVELING ALONG QL 20 IN DINH QUAN AND ABDUCTED ITS 2 PASSENGERS.

8. ON THE GIA DINH/HAU NGHIA BORDER 4 KMS NW OF HOC MON DISTRICT HQS, COMMUNIST SAPPERS BLEW UP THE BONG BRIDGE ON QL 1 TO TAY NINH DURING THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 22. ACCORDING TO GIA DINH S-2 A RAFT CARRYING AN ESTIMATED 100 KILOS OF TNT WAS FLOATED UNDER THE BRIDGE BLOWING ONE AND ONE-HALF SPANS OF THE BRIDGE AND RESULTING IN RVNAF CASUALTIES OF 3 KILLED AND 6 WOUNDED. EMERGENCY REPAIRS WERE MADE AND TRAFFIC WAS ABLE TO MOVE ALONG QL 1 BY THE FOLLOWING EVENING. TERRORIST ACTIVITY INCREASED IN GIA DINH PROVINCE DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD. ACCORDING TO GIA DINH S-2, ON SEPTEMBER 19 TWO TERRORISTS MASKED WITH BANDAGES WALKED UP BEHIND TWO NATIONAL POLICEMEN AS THEY WERE PURCHASING CIGARETTES ON LE QUANG DINH STREET IN THE URBAN GIA DINH-METROPOLITAN SAIGON AREA AND GUNNED THEM DOWN. ON THE SAME DAY A COMMUNIST TERRORIST RIDING BY ON A HONDA THREW A GRENADE INTO A VIS OFFICE NEAR GO VAP DISTRICT HQ SERIOUSLY WOUNDING ONE CADRE. CONFIDENTIAL

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IN THE RURAL AREA OF THU DUC DISTRICT, GIA DINH, LESS THAN 10 KMS FROM SAIGON, A SAPPER DETONATED SOME EXPLOSIVES KILLING 3 RF SOLDIERS. AN INDIVIDUAL SUSPECTED TO HAVE COMMITTED THIS ACT WAS APPREHENDED LATER IN THE DAY.

9. ICCS: INDODEL REPORTS THAT THREE "OBSERVATIONS" WERE PERFORMED BY INDODEL DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD. THE INDODEL SUB-REGIONAL TEAMS AT XUAN LOC AND TAN AN INSPECTED THE SCENES OF COMMUNIST ATTACKS AGAINST TERRITORIAL FORCE POSITIONS IN EACH OF THEIR PROVINCES AND THE INDODEL SUB-REGIONAL TEAM AT LAM SON INSPECTED THE RESULTS OF A SABOTAGE INCIDENT IN WHICH A GVN PATROL BOAT WAS DAMAGED AND 2 RVNAF WERE KILLED IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE. INDODEL NOTED THAT THESE "OBSERVATIONS" WERE UNDERTAKEN BY THEIR DELEGATION ALONE AND WHILE THE GVN PROVIDED SOME GASOLINE FO THE TRAVEL OF THE DELEGATES, INDODEL DID, OUT OF ITS OWN POCKET, PAY FOR SOME OF THE GAS. THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS REPRESENTED AT THE VARIOUS TEAM SITES IN ICCS REGION V DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD. THE COMMUNISTS HAVE CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN THEIR PRESENCE AT BIEN HOA HQS AS WELL AS TAN AN, XUAN LOC AND VUNG TAU WHILE THE IRANIANS AND INDONESIANS CONTINUE TO BE REPRESENTED AT ALL SITES IN REGION V.

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DPW-01 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 251020Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9011

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
CINCPAC/POLAD/HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP CITP
ZD
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
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PART VIII--MR-4

1. SECURITY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL SECURITY: MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE DELTA DECREASED AS THE SEPTEMBER HIGHPOINT SHOWS SIGNS OF TAPERING OFF. EXCEPT FOR DINH TUONG PROVINCE, MOST ACTIVITY WAS IN VC MR3 AND WAS CHARACTERIZED BY ABF'S AND HARASSMENTS. CORPS REPORTS 364 VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS (516 LAST WEEK), CONSISTING OF 62 GROUND ATTACKS (92), 194 ABF'S (282), 89 HARASSMENTS (116), 10 SABOTAGE (11), AND 9 ETTORIST INCIDENTS (14). DESPITE DECREASE IN INCIDENTS, LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES REMAINED HIGH. GVN LOSSES ARE REPORTED AS 213 KIA (251), 697 WIA (891), 96 MIA (180), AND 10 CREW-SERVED (14) AND 386 INDIVIDUAL (415 WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 431 VC/NVA KILLED (477), 11 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (39), AND 13 CREW-SERVED (16) AND 125 INDIVIDUAL (148) WEAPONS SEIZED.

(B) NORTHERN DELTA: IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE, A MAJOR CONTACT OCCURRED IN PHU PONG (V), SAM GIANG (D) IN WHICH 8 RF AND 54 VC WERE KILLED AND 16 RF WOUNDED. THERE WERE SEVERAL INCIDENTS IN THE THREE NORMALLY QUIET EASTERN DISTRICTS, INCLUDING AN ABF

ON PHU MY VILLAGE OFFICE (BEN TRANH DISTRICT) IN WHICH A HAMLET CHIEF WAS WOUNDED, AND A SNIPING AT NIGHT ON PROVINCIAL ROUTE 24 IN CHO GAO DISTRICT. ELSEWHERE ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO CONSIST OF ABF'S AND GROUND ATTACKS ON ISOLATED GVN POSITIONS AND MININGS OF ROADS. MOST SERIOUS WERE AN ABF ON HAU MY DISTRICT HQ WHICH KILLED 3 RF AND 2 CIVILIANS AND WOUNDED 42 RF AND 14 CIVILIANS; THE MINING OF RACH DAO BRIDGE ON ROUTE 30 IN GIAO DUC (D); AND A MINING ON ROUTE 29 IN CAI LAY DISTRICT WHICH WOUNDED 10 CIVILIANS ON A BUS. IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE, ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO CENTER IN CAO LANH (D) BUT WAS LESS INTENSE THAN LAST WEEK. MOST SIGNIFICANT WAS AN ATTEMPTED INFILTRATION OF NHI MY (V) BY THE D-1 BATTALION/Z-15 REGIMENT. ACTING ON INTEL AND AIR SURVEILLANCE, SECTOR FIRED 300 ROUNDS OF 105 AND 155MM INTO THE D-1 POSITION, AND SUBSEQUENT INTEL INDICATED 21 NVA WERE KILLED AND 30 WOUNDED. IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE, ALL GVN CASUALTIES OCCURRED IN NHON NINH AND NHON HOA VILLAGES (KIEN BINH DISTRICT) WHERE VC/NVA LOCAL FORCE UNITS CONTINUE TO RESIST GVN EFFORTS TO REGAIN CONTROL OF THE CUNG CANAL. CONFIDENTIAL

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SIX OF THE NINE OUTPOSTS ALONG THE CANAL OVERRUN OR ABANDONED IN JULY ARE BEING REBUILT. GO CONG, AN GIANG AND CHAU DOC PROVINCES WERE QUIET.

(C) CENTRAL DELTA: IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE, VC/NVA UNITS INCREASED PRESSURE ON ROUTE 30. ONE SPAN OF CAU SAP BRIDGE IN AN DINH (V), HUONG MY (D) WAS COLLAPSED BY EXPLOSIVES IN THE FIRST SUCH INCIDENT IN KIEN HOA SINCE MARCH; REPAIRS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE ANOTHER WEEK. ALSO ON ROUTE 30, TWO RF WERE KILLED BY SNIPING FIRE IN THE AFTERNOON IN TAN BINH (V), MO CAY (D). IN VINH BINH PROVINCE, HEAVY ACTIVITY CONTINUED IN CANG LONG (D). THREE OUTPOSTS WERE REPORTED OVERRUN OR ABANDONED WHILE THREE OTHERS LOST COMMUNICATION DURING GROUND ATTACKS AND THEIR STATUS IS UNKNOWN. ONE OF THE OVERRUN OBS, IN TAN AN (V), REPORTED 9 GVN TROOPS KIA AND 8 MIA. IN VINH LONG PROVINCE, TWO WATCHTOWERS AND ONE OB WERE OVERRUN IN HIEU PHUNG AND TRUNG HIEP VILLAGES, VUNG LIEM (D). ONE OF THESE WAS OVERRUN TWICE THE SAME DAY. MOST OTHER INCIDENTS WERE SMALL UNIT CONTACTS IN AN DUC (V). AND PHU QUOI (V), CHAU THANH (D) AND IN HAU LOC (V), TAM BINH (D). IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE, HIEU LE AND KIEN AN DISTRICTS WERE QUIET, WHILE ACTIVITY CENTERED IN SW KIEN BINH (D) AND MOUNTAINOUS AREAS OF KIEN LUONG (D). THREE OUTPOSTS IN KIEN BINH (D) WERE OVERRUN AND THOI AN VILLAGE HQ WAS ATTACKED AGAIN AND COMMUNICATION WITH DEFENDERS LOST; RESULTS UNKNOWN. IN THE THREE SISTERS MOUNTAINS, THE VC/NVA CONTINUED TO PRESSURE RF UNITS ON HILLS 60 AND 88, WHILE TO THE WEST THEY FORCED ABANDONMENT OF RAY MOI OB IN THE BINH TRI MOUNTAIN COMPLEX. IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE, TRA NOC (BINH THUY) AIRBASE WAS ROCKETED FOR THE SECOND TIME IN THREE MONTHS BUT ALL ROCKETS

MISSED THE BASE CAUSING NO DAMAGE. THUAN TRUNG DISTRICT TOWN AND THOI LAI VILLAGE HQ (THUAN TRUNG) RECEIVED MORTAR FIRE, BUT THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES. ONE WATCHTOWER IN NGON THIEU (V) THUAN TRUNG (D) WAS ABANDONED UNDER PRESSURE BUT RETAKEN THE NEXT MORNING.

(D) SOUTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE WAS HEAVIEST IN SOUTHERN LICH HOI THUONG (D), AROUND THUAN HOA DISTRICT HQ, AND IN NORTHERN KE SACH (D). A MINE EXPLODED AGAINST NHU GIA BRIDGE ON HIGHWAY 4 IN THANH PHU (V), MY XUYEN (D) DAMAGING A STEEL SPAN, BUT ONE-WAY TRAFFIC WAS RESTORED
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AFTER A TEN-HOUR DELAY, ACTIVITY IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE DROPPED SHARPLY, BUT PROVINCE OFFICIALS ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN VINH HUNG (V), GIA RAI (D), WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE. MOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE LEFT THE VILLAGE, AND DEPUTY SUBSECTOR COMMANDER NOW HAS MILITARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL. ELSEWHERE IN THE PROVINCE, A MINE HEAVILY DAMAGED A HAMLET SCHOOL IN AN TRACH (V), GIA RAI (D), AND A GRENADE WAS THROWN INTO A PSDF POSITION ON HIGHWAY 4 IN LONG THANH (V), VINH LOI (D). ACTIVITY IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE CENTERED IN XA PHIEN (V), KIEN THIEN (D) AND HOA HUNG (V), DUC LONG (D). UNITS OF THE 31ST REGIMENT/21ST DIVISION ARE ATTEMPTING TO DISLODGE 95A NVA REGIMENT FROM XA PHIEN BUT HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL; AN OB ON THE MAIN ACCESS ROUTE TO XA PHIEN WAS OVERRUN FOR THE SECOND TIME IN TWO WEEKS. HOA HUNG WAS OVERRUN AND LATER RETAKEN. AN XUYEN PROVINCE WAS QUIET SOUTH OF CA MAU, BUT ACTIVITY CONTINUED IN TAN LOC (V), CANG LONG

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DPW-01 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 251020Z SEP 74
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(D), WERE A PF PLATOON-SIZE OB WAS ABANONDED. SECTOR SENT THE
POLICE SPECIAL GROUP, SA SECTOR INTELLIGENCE PLATOON AND 22
RF INTO THE AREA OVER THE WEEKEND.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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